

## GOV. MSG. NO. 126

## **EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS**

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE

November 2, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President and Members of the Senate Second Special Session Twenty-Fourth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on November 2, 2007, the following bill was signed into law:

SB1 SD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.
(ACT 002 Second Special Session)

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE

on \_

THE SENATE
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 0 0 2 S.B. NO. S.D. 1

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	PART I
2	SECTION 1. (a) The Hawaii supreme court has determined
3	that chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires that an
4	environmental assessment be performed with respect to certain
5	improvements at Kahului harbor intended for and to be used by a
6	large capacity ferry vessel company to provide inter-island
7	ferry service between the islands of Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and
8	Hawaii, using harbor facilities on each island, and that the
9	environmental assessment must take into account secondary
10	effects of the Kahului harbor improvements.
11	The legislature finds that the existing circumstances,
12	specifically the construction and completion of harbor
13	improvements and the subsequent operation of a large capacity
14	ferry vessel company for a limited period of time, present a
15	unique situation. Seldom, if ever, has a judicial determination
16	overturned harbor improvements and business operations that were
17	previously authorized by the government and approved by the
18	lower court approximately two years earlier. Such an occurrence
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- 1 is not explicitly contemplated in chapter 343, Hawaii Revised
- 2 Statutes, and is not consistent with the intent of the
- 3 legislature. As such, the policy that applies under law should
- 4 be amended and clarified.
- 5 The legislature further finds that the operation of a large
- 6 capacity ferry vessel company, specifically, using a new class
- 7 of large capacity ferry vessels capable of transporting large
- 8 numbers of people, motor vehicles, and cargo with ease, is in
- 9 the public interest in that it provides a real and innovative
- 10 alternative to existing modes of transporting people, motor
- 11 vehicles, and cargo between the islands of the state. With its
- 12 ability to transport large quantities of cargo between islands
- 13 in a very short period of time, agricultural produce would
- 14 suffer less heat damage in transit, resulting in higher quality
- 15 produce and fresh food products at a lower cost for all
- 16 residents of the state. By encouraging the growing of products
- 17 on the islands of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii for the Oahu market,
- 18 the operations of a large capacity ferry vessel company would
- 19 foster diversified agriculture, helping the State of Hawaii to
- 20 meet one of its constitutional mandates. Further, in times of
- 21 natural or other disasters, a large capacity ferry vessel

- 1 company could provide the means to rapidly deploy disaster
- 2 relief personnel, equipment, and supplies.
- 3 The legislature also finds that it is clearly in the public
- 4 interest that a large capacity ferry vessel service should
- 5 commence as soon as possible, and that harbor improvements
- 6 continue to be constructed and be allowed to be used, while any
- 7 environmental studies, including any environmental assessments
- 8 or environmental impact statements, are conducted.
- 9 The legislature also finds that it would be desirable and
- 10 appropriate for the department of transportation to prepare or
- 11 contract to prepare an environmental impact statement regarding
- 12 commercial harbor improvements undertaken to accommodate a large
- 13 capacity ferry vessel company and its operations, even if such
- 14 an environmental impact statement may not yet be legally
- 15 required. Such an environmental impact statement should include
- 16 secondary impacts of such commercial harbor improvements,
- 17 including impacts of a large capacity ferry vessel company and
- 18 its operations.
- 19 The legislature further finds that it would be appropriate
- 20 for:
- 21 (1) An oversight task force to study the State's actions
- regarding the establishment of the operations of any

1		large capacity ferry vessel company as a whole, and
2		the impact of any existing or proposed large capacity
3		ferry vessel operations, and to report its findings to
4		the legislature and governor; and
5	(2)	The auditor to conduct a performance audit on, among
6		other things, how the State conducted its proceedings
7		and determined that harbor improvements related to the
8		operation of a certain large capacity ferry vessel
9		company should receive an exemption from the need to
10		conduct either an environmental assessment or
11		environmental impact statement under chapter 343,
12		Hawaii Revised Statutes, including why secondary
13		impacts were not considered.
14	(b)	This Act adopts a new policy, and further clarifies
15	and amends	existing law, with respect to this new type of inter-
16	island fer	rry service to provide that, during the period in which
17	any requir	ed environmental review and studies, including
18	environmen	ntal assessments or environmental impact statements,
19	are prepar	red, and also following their completion:
20	(1)	A large capacity ferry vessel company and large
21		capacity ferry vessels may operate subject to the

1		emproyment or measures to mitigate significant
2		environmental effects;
3	(2)	Agreements with respect to the operations of a large
4		capacity ferry vessel company, including a large
5		capacity ferry vessel company operating agreement,
6		entered into between the State and a large capacity
7		ferry vessel company, may be enforced as written or a
8		executed or re-executed; and
9	(3)	Related harbor improvements may be constructed and
10		used by the State, by a large capacity ferry vessel
11		company, and by others,
12	notwithst	anding the fact that the non-preparation or non-
13	completio	n of environmental assessments or environmental impact
14	statement	s, the lack of acceptance of an environmental impact
15	statement	, or the lack of a finding of no significant impact,
16	would other	erwise have barred, delayed, been a condition precedent
17	to, or in	terfered with paragraphs (1) through (3).
18	(c)	This Act further clarifies and amends existing law to
19	provide th	nat:
20	(1)	Due to the unique nature and critical importance of
21		the inter-island ferry service industry to the people
22		of our state, the construction and use of harbor

1		improvements to facilitate this new type of inter-
2		island ferry service is to be governed by this Act,
3		and not by chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
4	(2)	Such construction and use shall continue, while any
5		environmental review and studies, including
6		environmental assessments or environmental impact
7		statements, are prepared and following their
8		completion, notwithstanding the fact that the non-
9		preparation or non-completion of environmental
10		assessments or environmental impact statements, the
11		lack of acceptance of an environmental impact
12		statement, or the lack of a finding of no significant
13		impact, would otherwise have barred, delayed, been a
14		condition precedent to, or interfered with such
15		construction and use.

(d) The purpose of this Act is to facilitate the
establishment of inter-island ferry service and, at the same
time, protect Hawaii's fragile environment by clarifying that
neither the preparation of an environmental assessment, nor a
finding of no significant impact, nor acceptance of an
environmental impact statement shall be a condition precedent
to, or otherwise be required prior to:

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1	(1)	The operation of a large capacity ferry vessel company
2		pursuant to any certificate of public convenience and
3		necessity approved by the public utilities commission;
4	(2)	The operation of a large capacity ferry vessel company
5		and large capacity ferry vessel between any port or
6		harbor in Hawaii pursuant to any written operating
7		agreement;
8	(3)	The construction, use, or operation of any
9		improvements at Kahului harbor and any other harbor in
10		the state relating to the operation of a large
11		capacity ferry vessel company or large capacity ferry
12		vessel;
13	(4)	The appropriation or expenditure of any funds, the use
14		of state lands, the issuance of any permits, or the
15		entering into of any agreements; or
16	(5)	The taking of any other necessary or appropriate
17		actions for the purpose of facilitating any matter
18		covered by paragraphs (1) to (4), notwithstanding the
19		fact that the non-preparation or non-completion of
20		environmental assessments or environmental impact
21		statements, the lack of acceptance of an environmental
22		impact statement, or the lack of a finding of no

1		significant impact, would otherwise have barred,
2		delayed, been a condition precedent to, or interfered
3		with the same; provided that upon commencement of
4		inter-island ferry service, the large capacity ferry
5		vessel company shall comply with the conditions and
6		protocols established under this Act, and with any
7		additional conditions and protocols set by the
8		governor by executive order, or subsequently
9		established by the legislature by law.
10	(e)	The purpose of this Act is also to amend all relevant
11	existing l	aws to provide that, while any environmental review
12	and studie	s, including environmental assessments or
13	environmen	tal impact statements, are prepared and following
14	their comp	letion:
15	(1)	A large capacity ferry vessel company and large
16	4	capacity ferry vessels may operate;
17	(2)	Agreements with respect to such operation, including
18	1	the operating agreements, entered into between the
19	Ę	State and a large capacity ferry vessel company may be
20	•	enforced, executed, or re-executed; and

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          (3) Related harbor improvements may be constructed and
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               used by the State, by a large capacity ferry vessel
               company, and by others.
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                                  PART II
 5
          SECTION 2. As used in this Act, unless the context
 6
     otherwise requires:
          "Large capacity ferry vessel" means any inter-island ferry
 7
    vessel that transports, is designed to transport, or is intended
 8
    to transport per voyage at least five hundred passengers, two
 9
    hundred motor vehicles, and cargo between the islands of the
10
11
    state.
         "Large capacity ferry vessel company" means any company
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    that owns or operates a large capacity ferry vessel.
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         "State entity" means any state or county department, board,
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    commission, and any other agency of the state or county.
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16
         "State marine waters" means all waters of the state,
    including the water column, water surface, and state submerged
17
    lands, extending from the upper reaches of the wash of the waves
18
19
    on shore seaward to the limit of the State's police power and
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    management authority, including the United States territorial
    sea, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, and including
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- 1 state harbors where appropriate, notwithstanding the depth of
- 2 the harbor.
- 3 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding chapters 205A, 269, 271G, and
- 4 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or their state or county
- 5 implementing rules or ordinances, including but not limited to
- 6 provisions relating to special management area permits,
- 7 certificates of public convenience and necessity, common
- 8 carriers by water, environmental assessments, and environmental
- 9 impact statements, and further notwithstanding that
- 10 environmental assessments and environmental impact statements
- 11 have not been prepared or completed, or have been completed and
- 12 an environmental impact statement is not accepted, is found
- 13 unacceptable, or a finding of no significant impact has not been
- 14 made:
- 15 (1) A large capacity ferry vessel company shall have the
- 16 right to operate and the right to utilize Kahului
- harbor improvements and other improvements and
- facilities on any island, pursuant to and subject to
- any and all agreements and contracts with state
- 20 entities, relating to the operation of a large
- 21 capacity ferry vessel and the use of state harbor
- 22 facilities;

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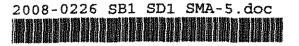
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1	(2)	All state harbor improvements, projects, and
2		facilities available for or to be utilized by the
3		large capacity ferry vessel company may be completed
4		and utilized for any purpose agreed to and authorized
5		by appropriate state entities;
6	(3)	A large capacity ferry vessel company and the
7		appropriate state entities may proceed pursuant to an

- đ subject to all executed tariffs, agreements, and 8 9 contracts between the company and the state entities, whether the tariffs, agreements, and contracts may 10 have previously been found to be in violation of 11 12 chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or any other law 13 and may re-execute the same, including an operating 14 agreement, in the same general form as previously executed; 15
  - (4) The operation of large capacity ferry vessels between the islands of Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii, including the use of harbor facilities on each island and improvements at Kahului harbor, is declared to be a required public convenience and necessity;
- (5) A certificate of public convenience and necessity
   issued to a large capacity ferry vessel company shall



1	not be revoked or modified on the basis that
2	environmental assessments or environmental impact
3	statements have not been prepared or completed; and
4	(6) The construction, use, or operation of any facilities
5	or improvements authorized by any agreement between a
6	large capacity ferry vessel company and a state
7	department, board, commission, or agency shall not be
8	subject to or require any county permits or approvals,
9	notwithstanding the fact that the non-preparation or non-
10	completion of environmental assessments or environmental impact
11	statements, the lack of acceptance of an environmental impact
12	statement, or the lack of a finding of no significant impact,
13	would otherwise have barred, delayed, been a condition precedent
14	to, or interfered with the same.
15	SECTION 4. (a) As a condition precedent to the rights
16	conferred by section 3 of this Act, any large capacity ferry
17	vessel company seeking to operate pursuant to this Act shall
18	comply with the following conditions:
19	(1) Regarding whale encounters:
20	(A) Apply with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
21	Administration for an incidental-take permit; and

1		/201	TOURGE ATT AND THE THE THE TOUR STORE THE TANK THE TIME
2			Fisheries Service, a division of the National
3			Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, be
4			onboard its vessels at all times when traveling
5			through the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale
6			National Marine Sanctuary;
7	(2)	Rega	rding invasive species:
8		(A)	Post signage and notify passengers beforehand of
9	·		all bans, inspections, and check-in procedures
10			and deadlines;
11		(B)	Post signage and notify passengers beforehand of
12			all bans such as the ban on the transport of
13	•		fishing gill nets and fishing nets for commercial
14			use, or rocks, soil, or dirt or sand without a
15			permit from the appropriate government agency.
16			For the purposes of this paragraph, "soil or
17			dirt" shall exclude soil or dirt in potted plants
18			inspected and cleared for transport by the
19			department of agriculture;
20		(C)	Require passengers to declare all plants, fruits,
21			seeds, and any other biological medium and

1	confiscate any pests for control or eradication
2	purposes or invasive species;
3	(D) Inspect or cause to be inspected all vehicles
4	prior to boarding, including the trunks of all
5	cars, the beds of all pickup trucks and the
6	undercarriage and interiors of all vehicles; and
7	(E) Promptly notify the appropriate governmental
8	agency regarding any violation or potential
9	violation of invasive species, agricultural,
10	conservation or other law; and
11	(3) Any other conditions or protocols the governor deems
12	necessary and appropriate to protect the State's
13	environment; provided that any such conditions or
14	protocols established under this paragraph shall be
15	executed by the governor, by means of an executive
16	order, and without regard to chapter 91, Hawaii
17	Revised Statutes, or any other provision of law.
18	Prior to the commencement of operations by a large capacity
19	ferry vessel company pursuant to the right to operate conferred
20	by section 3 of this Act, the governor shall notify the
21	legislature of all the conditions or protocols established

- 1 pursuant to this subsection, including the entities consulted in
- 2 establishing the conditions or protocols.
- 3 (b) Any large capacity ferry vessel company authorized to
- 4 operate pursuant to this Act shall execute an agreement with the
- 5 State, in a form acceptable to the attorney general, by which
- 6 the large capacity ferry vessel company shall expressly agree to
- 7 abide by any conditions or protocols established pursuant to
- 8 this section.
- 9 (c) The governor, by means of an executive order, and
- 10 without regard to Chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or any
- 11 other provision of law, may amend the conditions and protocols
- 12 established under this section on a large capacity ferry vessel
- 13 company's inter-island operations to ensure the reasonable,
- 14 efficient, and expedient application of environmental protection
- 15 measures set forth in this section.
- In addition, the governor, by means of an executive order,
- 17 and without regard to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or
- 18 any other provision of law, shall also impose additional
- 19 conditions and protocols on a large capacity ferry vessel
- 20 company's inter-island operations to mitigate significant
- 21 environmental effects that the governor determines, in the

- 1 governor's judgment, are likely to be caused by such inter2 island operations.
- 3 In making such determinations, the governor shall consider
- 4 the effects such operations may have on:
- 5 (1) Ocean life and marine animals and plants, including a 6 whale avoidance policy and procedures;
- 7 (2) Water resources and quality;
- 8 (3) Harbor infrastructure;
- 9 (4) Vehicular traffic;
- 10 (5) Public safety and security;
- 11 (6) Controlling the spread of invasive species;
- 12 (7) Cultural resources, including hunting, fishing, and
- native Hawaiian resources;
- 14 (8) Economic consequences and impact; and
- 15 (9) Any other natural resource or community concern the
- 16 governor deems appropriate.
- 17 The governor shall also consider establishing conditions
- 18 and protocols such as requiring department of agriculture
- 19 inspectors and department of land and natural resources
- 20 conservation and resources enforcement personnel on each inter-
- 21 island voyage conducted by a large capacity ferry vessel
- 22 company, as the governor deems necessary and appropriate. If

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- 1 the governor establishes such agriculture inspector and
- 2 conservation and resources enforcement personnel conditions and
- 3 protocols, the governor shall do so by means of an executive
- 4 order, and without regard to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised
- 5 Statutes, or any other provision of law. The governor shall
- 6 notify the legislature of any conditions or protocols.
- 7 established pursuant to this subsection, including the entities
- 8 consulted, within ten days of establishing the condition or
- 9 protocol.
- 10 The governor shall also review and determine the efficacy
- 11 and appropriateness of all conditions or protocols established
- 12 pursuant to this section and report to the legislature at the
- 13 end of each fiscal quarter of the State on the efficacy and
- 14 appropriateness of all conditions or protocols established
- 15 pursuant to this section and the costs incurred by the State in
- 16 establishing and maintaining the enforcement activities required
- 17 under this section.
- (d) The legislature reserves the sole right to:
- 19 (1) Review the adequacy of any conditions or protocols
- 20 imposed or amended by the governor under this Act; and
- 21 (2) Impose, by law, any other conditions or protocols it
- 22 deems necessary and appropriate to further protect the

1	state's environment or communities, or both, in
2	addition to any conditions or protocols imposed or
3	amended by the governor under this Act,
4	provided that this subsection shall not be construed as a
5	condition precedent to the rights conferred by section 3.
6	SECTION 5. Any large capacity ferry vessel operating in
7	state marine waters pursuant to section 3 shall comply with all
8	laws of general applicability, except as otherwise provided in
9	this Act. The environmental review process for state actions in
10	connection with a large capacity ferry vessel company shall be
11	governed by this Act, and not by chapter 343, Hawaii Revised
12	Statutes.
13	PART III
	PART III SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or
13	
13 14	SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or
13 14 15	SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or construed to impose a condition precedent to any activity
13 14 15 16	SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or construed to impose a condition precedent to any activity authorized under parts I, II, or IV of this Act.
13 14 15 16 17	SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or construed to impose a condition precedent to any activity authorized under parts I, II, or IV of this Act.  SECTION 7. As used in this part, unless the context
13 14 15 16 17	SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or construed to impose a condition precedent to any activity authorized under parts I, II, or IV of this Act.  SECTION 7. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:
13 14 15 16 17 18	SECTION 6. Nothing in this part shall be deemed or construed to impose a condition precedent to any activity authorized under parts I, II, or IV of this Act.  SECTION 7. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:  "Acceptance" means a formal determination of acceptability

- 1 environmental impacts, and satisfactorily responds to comments
- 2 received during the review of the statement. Acceptance does
- 3 not mean that the action is environmentally sound or unsound,
- 4 but only that the document complies with this part.
- 5 "Action" means any program or project that is proposed or
- 6 completed by the department and covered by this part.
- 7 "Addendum" means an attachment to a draft environmental
- 8 impact statement, prepared at the discretion of the department,
- 9 and distinct from a supplemental statement, for the purpose of
- 10 disclosing and addressing clerical errors such as inadvertent
- 11 omissions, corrections, or clarifications to information already
- 12 contained in the draft environmental impact statement already
- 13 filed with the office.
- 14 "Agency" means any department, office, board, or commission
- 15 of the state or county government which is a part of the
- 16 executive branch of that government.
- 17 "Approval" means a discretionary consent required from an
- 18 agency. Discretionary consent means a consent, sanction, or
- 19 recommendation from an agency for which judgment and free will
- 20 may be exercised by the issuing agency, as distinguished from a
- 21 ministerial consent. Ministerial consent means a consent,
- 22 sanction, or recommendation from an agency upon a given set of



- 1 facts, as prescribed by law or rule without the use of judgment
- 2 or discretion.
- 3 "Cumulative impact" means the impact on the environment
- 4 which results from the incremental impact of the action when
- 5 added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future
- 6 actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such
- 7 other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually
- 8 minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a
- 9 period of time.
- 10 "Department" means the department of transportation.
- "Effects" or "impacts" as used in this part are synonymous.
- 12 Effects may include ecological effects (such as the effects on
- 13 natural resources and on the components, structures, and
- 14 functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic effects, historic
- 15 effects, cultural effects, economic effects, social effects, or
- 16 health effects, whether primary, secondary, or cumulative.
- 17 Effects may also include those effects resulting from actions
- 18 which may have both beneficial and detrimental effects, even if
- 19 on balance the agency believes that the effect will be
- 20 beneficial.
- 21 "Environment" means humanity's surroundings, inclusive of
- 22 all the physical, economic, cultural, and social conditions that

- 1 exist within the area affected by an action, including land,
- 2 human and animal communities, air, water, minerals, flora,
- 3 fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic
- 4 significance.
- 5 "Environmental impact" means an effect of any kind, whether
- 6 immediate or delayed, on any component of the environment.
- 7 "Environmental impact statement" or "statement" means an
- 8 informational document prepared in compliance with this part and
- 9 which discloses the environmental effects of an action, effects
- 10 of an action on the economic welfare, social welfare, and
- 11 cultural practices of the community and state, effects of the
- 12 economic activities arising out of the action, measures proposed
- 13 to minimize adverse effects, and alternatives to the action and
- 14 their environmental effects.
- The initial statement filed for public review shall be
- 16 referred to as the draft statement and shall be distinguished
- 17 from the final statement which is the document that has
- 18 incorporated the public's comments and the responses to those
- 19 comments. The final statement is the document that shall be
- 20 evaluated for acceptability by the office.
- 21 "Office" means the office of environmental quality control.

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"Person" includes any individual, partnership, firm,
 1
    association, trust, estate, private corporation, or other legal
 2
    entity other than an agency.
 3
          "Primary impact" or "primary effect" or "direct impact" or
 4
    "direct effect" means effects which are caused by the action and
 5
    occur at the same time and place.
 6
          "Secondary impact" or "secondary effect" or "indirect
 7
    impact" or "indirect effect" means effects which are caused by
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    the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance,
 9
    but are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may
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    include growth inducing effects and other effects related to
11
    induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density
12
13
    or growth rate, and related effects on air, water, and other
    natural systems, including ecosystems.
14
         "Significant effect" or "significant impact" means the sum
15
    of effects on the quality of the environment, including actions
16
    that irrevocably commit a natural resource, curtail the range of
17
    beneficial uses of the environment, are contrary to the State's
18
    environmental policies or long-term environmental goals and
19
20
    quidelines as established by law, or adversely affect the
    economic welfare, social welfare, or cultural practices of the
21
22
    community and state.
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          SECTION 8. The department of transportation shall prepare
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     or contract to prepare an environmental impact statement for the
 3
     improvements made or to be made to commercial harbors throughout
 4
     the state that require the expenditure of public funds to
 5
    accommodate the use thereof by a large capacity ferry vessel
 6
    company and the secondary effects of those operations on the
 7
    state's environment, including the operation of the large
 8
    capacity ferry vessel company.
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         SECTION 9. (a) The environmental impact statement
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    required to be prepared under this part by the department shall
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    comply with and be in conformity with the provisions of this
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    part.
13
          (b)
              The environmental impact statement process shall
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    involve at a minimum:
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         (1)
              Identifying environmental concerns;
16
         (2)
              Obtaining various relevant data;
17
         (3)
              Conducting necessary studies;
18
         (4)
              Receiving public and agency input;
19
         (5)
              Evaluating alternatives; and
20
         (6)
              Proposing measures for avoiding, minimizing,
              rectifying, or reducing adverse impacts.
21
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- 1 An environmental impact statement is meaningless without the
- 2 conscientious application of the environmental impact statement
- 3 process as a whole, and shall not be merely a self-serving
- 4 recitation of benefits and a rationalization of the action, but
- 5 shall discuss adverse effects and available alternatives, so
- 6 that decision-makers will be enlightened to any environmental
- 7 consequences of the action. In preparing the environmental
- 8 impact statement, the department shall submit it for review and
- 9 comments, and revise it, taking into account all critiques and
- 10 responses.
- 11 (c) In developing the statement, preparers shall make
- 12 every effort to convey the required information succinctly in a
- 13 form easily understood both by members of the public and by
- 14 public decision-makers, giving attention to the substance of the
- 15 information conveyed rather than to the particular form, length,
- 16 or detail of the statement. Data and analyses in the statement
- 17 shall be commensurate with the importance of the impact, and
- 18 less important material may be summarized, consolidated, or
- 19 simply referenced. Statements shall indicate at appropriate
- 20 points in the text any underlying studies, reports, and other
- 21 information obtained and considered in preparing the statement,
- 22 including cost-benefit analyses and reports required under other

- 1 legal authorities. Care shall be taken to concentrate on
- 2 important issues and to ensure that the statement remains an
- 3 essentially self-contained document, capable of being understood
- 4 by the reader without the need for undue cross-reference.
- 5 (d) The environmental impact statement shall contain an
- 6 explanation of the environmental consequences of the action.
- 7 The contents shall fully declare the environmental implications
- 8 of the action and shall discuss all relevant and feasible
- 9 consequences of the action. In order that the public can be
- 10 fully informed and that the department can make a sound decision
- 11 based upon the full range of responsible opinions on
- 12 environmental effects, the statement shall include responsible
- 13 opposing views, if any, on significant environmental issues
- 14 raised by the action.
- 15 (e) In the preparation of a draft statement, the
- 16 department shall consult all appropriate agencies and other
- 17 citizen groups, and concerned individuals. To this end, the
- 18 department shall endeavor to develop a fully acceptable
- 19 environmental impact statement prior to the time the statement
- 20 is filed with the office, through a full and complete
- 21 consultation process, and shall not rely solely upon the review
- 22 process to expose environmental concerns.

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1
          (f) Any substantive comments received by the department
 2
     pursuant to this part shall be responded to in writing and as
 3
     appropriate, incorporated into the draft environmental impact
    statement by the department prior its filing with the office.
 4
    Letters submitted which contain no comments on the project but
 5
    only serve to acknowledge receipt of the document do not require
 6
    a written response. Acknowledgement of receipt of these items
 7
    shall be included in the final statement.
 8
 9
         SECTION 10. (a) The draft environmental impact statement,
    at a minimum, shall contain:
10
11
              A summary sheet which concisely discusses the
              following:
12
13
               (A)
                   Brief description of the action;
              (B)
                   Significant beneficial and adverse impacts,
14
                    including cumulative impacts and secondary
15
                   impacts;
16
17
              (C)
                   Proposed mitigation measures;
                   Alternatives considered;
18
              (D)
              (E)
                   Unresolved issues; and
19
20
              (F)
                   Compatibility with land use plans and policies,
                   and a listing of permits or approvals;
21
22
         (2)
              A table of contents;
```

1	(3)	A se	eparate and distinct section that includes a
2		stat	cement of purpose and need for the action;
3	(4)	A pı	roject description which shall include the
4		foll	lowing information, but need not supply extensive
5		deta	ail beyond that needed for evaluation and review of
6		the	environmental impact:
7		(A)	A detailed map, preferably a United States
8			Geological Survey topographic map, Flood
9			Insurance Rate Maps or Floodway Boundary Maps as
10			applicable, and a related regional map;
11		(B)	Statement of objectives;
12		(C)	General description of the action's technical,
13			economic, social, and environmental
14			characteristics;
15		(D)	Use of public funds or lands for the action;
16		(E)	Phasing and timing of action;
17		(F)	Summary technical data, diagrams, and other
18	•		information necessary to permit an evaluation of
19			potential environmental impact by commenting
20			agencies and the public; and
21		(G)	Historic perspective;

1	(5)	A S	eparate and distinct section of alternatives which
2		cou	ld attain the objectives of the action, regardless
3		of (	cost, in sufficient detail to explain why they were
4		reje	ected. The section shall include a rigorous
5		exp	loration and objective evaluation of the
6		envi	ronmental impacts of all such alternative actions.
7		Part	cicular attention shall be given to alternatives
8		that	might enhance environmental quality or avoid,
9		redu	ace, or minimize some or all of the adverse
10		envi	ronmental effects, costs, and risks. Examples of
11		alte	rnatives include:
12		(A)	The alternative of no action;
13		(B)	Alternatives requiring actions of a significantly
14			different nature which would provide similar
15			benefits with different environmental impacts;
16		(C)	Alternatives related to different designs or
17			details of the actions which would present
18			different environmental impacts;
19		(D)	The alternative of postponing action pending
20			further study; and
21		(E)	Alternative locations for the proposed project,

as appropriate.

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In each case, the analysis shall be sufficiently
detailed to allow the comparative evaluation of the
environmental benefits, costs, and risks of the action
and each reasonable alternative, including, if
relevant, those alternatives not within the existing
authority of the department;

A description of the environmental setting, including (6) a description of the environment in the vicinity of the action, as it exists before commencement of the action, from both a local and regional perspective. Special emphasis shall be placed on environmental resources that are rare or unique to the region and the project site, including natural or human-made resources of historic, archaeological, or aesthetic significance; specific reference to related projects, public and private, existent or planned in the region shall also be included for purposes of examining the possible overall cumulative impacts of such actions. The department shall also identify, if appropriate, population and growth characteristics of the affected area and any population and growth assumptions used to justify the action and determine secondary population

1		and growth impacts resulting from the action and its
2		alternatives. The sources of data used to identify,
3		qualify, or evaluate any and all environmental
4		consequences shall be expressly noted;
5	(7)	A statement of the relationship of the action to land
6		use plans, policies, and controls for the affected
7		area. Discussion of how the action may conform or
8		conflict with objectives and specific terms of
9		approved or proposed land use plans, policies, and
10		controls, if any, for the area affected shall be
11		included. Where a conflict or inconsistency exists,
12		the statement shall describe the extent to which the
13		department has reconciled its action with the plan,
14		policy, or control, and the reasons why the department
15		has decided to proceed, notwithstanding the absence of
16		full reconciliation. The draft statement shall also
17		contain a list of necessary approvals which were
18		obtained from governmental agencies, boards, or
19		commissions or other similar groups having
20		jurisdiction;
21	(8)	A statement of the probable impact of the action on

the environment, and impacts of the natural or human

1	environment on the project, which shall include
2	consideration of all phases of the action and
3	consideration of all consequences on the environment;
4	direct and indirect effects shall be included. The
5	interrelationships and cumulative environmental
6	impacts of the action and other related projects shall
7	be discussed in the draft statement. Secondary
8	effects shall be thoroughly discussed to fully
9	describe the probable impact of the action on the
10	environment. The population and growth impacts of an
11	action shall be estimated if expected to be
12	significant, and an evaluation made of the effects of
13	any possible change in population patterns or growth
14	upon the resource base, including but not limited to
15	land use, water, and public services, of the area in
16	question. Also, if the action constitutes a direct or
17	indirect source of pollution as determined by any
18	governmental agency, necessary data shall be
19	incorporated into the statement. The significance of
20	the impacts shall be discussed in terms of paragraphs
21	(9), (10), (11), and (12);

	(3)	er arbarace and ancertain nonethir annething cits
2		relationship between local short-term uses of
3		humanity's environment and the maintenance and
4		enhancement of long-term productivity. The extent to
5		which the action involves trade-offs among short-term
6		and long-term gains and losses shall be discussed.
7		The discussion shall include the extent to which the
8		action forecloses future options, narrows the range of
9		beneficial uses of the environment, or poses long-term
10		risks to health or safety. In this context, short-
11		term and long-term do not necessarily refer to any
12		fixed time periods, but shall be viewed in terms of
13		the environmentally significant consequences of the
14		action;
15	(10)	A separate and distinct section that describes all
16		irreversible and irretrievable commitments of
17		resources that would be involved in the action should
18		it be implemented. Identification of unavoidable
19		impacts and the extent to which the action makes use
20		of non-renewable resources during the phases of the
21		action, or irreversibly curtails the range of
22		potential uses of the environment shall also be

1		included. The possibility of environmental accidents
2		resulting from any phase of the action shall also be
3		considered. "Resources" shall not be interpreted to
4		mean only the labor and materials devoted to an
5		action, but to include the natural and cultural
6		resources committed to loss or destruction by the
7		action;
8	(11)	All probable adverse environmental effects which
9		cannot be avoided. Any adverse effects such as water
10		or air pollution, urban congestion, threats to public
11		health, or other consequences adverse to environmental
12		goals and guidelines established by environmental
13		response laws, coastal zone management laws, pollution
14		control and abatement laws, and environmental policy
15		such as those found in chapters 128D, 205A, 342B,
16		342C, 342D, 342E, 342F, 342G, 342H, 342I, 342J, 342L,
17		342N, 342P, and 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be
18		included, including those effects discussed in other
19		actions of this paragraph which are adverse and

unavoidable under the action. Also, the rationale for

proceeding with an action, notwithstanding unavoidable

effects, shall be clearly set forth in this section.

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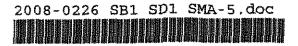
1		The draft statement shall indicate what other
2		interests and considerations of governmental policies
3		are thought to offset the adverse environmental
4		effects of the action. The statement shall also
5		indicate the extent to which these stated
6		countervailing benefits could be realized by following
7		reasonable alternatives to the action that would avoid
8		some or all of the adverse environmental effects;
9	(12)	Mitigation measures proposed to avoid, minimize,
10		rectify, or reduce impact, including provisions for
11		compensation for losses of cultural, community,
12		historical, archaeological, fish and wildlife
13		resources, including the acquisition of land, waters,
14		and interests therein. Description of any mitigation
15		measures included in the action plan to reduce
16		significant, unavoidable, adverse impacts to
17		insignificant levels, and the basis for considering
18		these levels acceptable shall be included. Where a
19		particular mitigation measure has been chosen from
20		among several alternatives, the measures shall be
21		discussed and reasons given for the choice made.
22		Included, where possible and appropriate, should be

1		specific reference to the timing of each step proposed
2		to be taken in the mitigation process, what
3		performance bonds, if any, may be posted, and what
4		other provisions are proposed to assure that the
5		mitigation measures will in fact be taken;
6	(13)	A separate and distinct section that summarizes
7		unresolved issues and containing a discussion of how
8	•	such issues will be resolved;
9	(14)	A separate and distinct section that contains a list
10		identifying all governmental agencies, other
11		organizations, and private individuals consulted in
12		preparing the statement, and the identity of the
13		persons, firms, or agency preparing the statement, by
14		contract or other authorization, shall be disclosed;
15		and
16	(15)	A separate and distinct section that contains
17		reproductions of all substantive comments and
18		responses made during the consultation process. A
19		list of those persons or agencies who were consulted
20		and had no comment shall be included in the draft
21		statement.

1	(b)	The final environmental impact statement shall consist
2	of:	
3	(1)	The draft statement revised to incorporate substantive
4		comments received during the consultation and review
5		processes;
6	(2)	Reproductions of all letters received containing
7		substantive questions, comments, or recommendations
8		and, as applicable, summaries of any scoping meetings
9		held;
10	(3)	A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies
11		commenting on the draft statement; and
12	(4)	The responses of the department to each substantive
13		question, comment, or recommendation received in the
14		review and consultation processes. The text of the
15		final statement shall be written in a format which
16		allows the reader to easily distinguish changes made
17		to the text of the draft statement.
18	SECT	TION 11. (a) The department shall file the original
19	(signed)	draft environmental impact statement with the office,
20	along wit	th a minimum number of copies determined by the office.
21	(b)	The department shall file the original (signed) final

- 1 statement with the office, along with a minimum number of copies
- 2 determined by the office.
- 3 (c) An environmental impact statement may be filed at any
- 4 time at the office by the department.
- 5 The office shall inform the public of the availability of
- 6 any statements or addendum documents for review and comments,
- 7 and the acceptance or non-acceptance of statements through the
- 8 periodic bulletin used by the office. The bulletin shall be
- 9 made available to any person upon request.
- 10 All submittals to the office for publication in the
- 11 bulletin shall be accompanied by a completed informational form
- 12 which provides whatever information the office needs to properly
- 13 notify the public. The information requested may include the
- 14 following: the title of the action; the islands affected by the
- 15 action; tax map key numbers; street addresses; nearest
- 16 geographical landmarks; latitudinal and longitudinal
- 17 coordinates; the type of document prepared; the names,
- 18 addresses, and contact persons as applicable, of the office,
- 19 department, and the consultant; and a brief narrative summary of
- 20 the action which provides sufficient detail to convey the full
- 21 impact of the action to the public.

- 1 The office may provide recommendations to the department
- 2 regarding any applicable administrative content requirements set
- 3 forth in this part.
- 4 (d) The department shall sign and date the original copy
- 5 of the draft or final environmental impact statement and shall
- 6 indicate that the statement and all ancillary documents were
- 7 prepared under the signatory's direction or supervision and that
- 8 the information submitted, to the best of the signatory's
- 9 knowledge, fully addresses document content requirements as set
- 10 forth in this part.
- (e) All statements and other related documents shall be
- 12 made available for inspection by the public during established
- 13 office hours.
- 14 (f) The office shall be responsible for the publication of
- 15 the notice of availability of the environmental impact statement
- 16 in its periodic bulletin. The office shall develop a
- 17 distribution list of reviewers (i.e., persons and agencies with
- 18 jurisdiction or expertise in certain areas relevant to various
- 19 actions) and a list of public depositories, which shall include
- 20 public libraries, where copies of the statements shall be
- 21 available, to be developed cooperatively between the department
- 22 and the office; provided that the office shall be responsible



- 1 for determining the final list. To the extent possible, the
- 2 department shall make copies of the statement available to
- 3 individuals requesting the statement. The department shall
- 4 directly distribute the required copies to those on the
- 5 distribution list after the office has verified with the
- 6 department the accuracy of the distribution list. For final
- 7 statements, the department shall give the commentor an option of
- 8 requesting a copy of the final statement or portions thereof.
- 9 (g) The draft and final statements shall be prepared by
- 10 the department and submitted to the office. The draft statement
- 11 shall be made available for public review and comment through
- 12 the office for a period of forty-five days. The office shall
- 13 inform the public of the availability of the draft statement for
- 14 public review and comment pursuant to this part. The department
- 15 shall respond in writing to comments received during the review
- 16 and prepare a final statement.
- 17 (h) Review of the environmental impact statement shall
- 18 serve to provide the public and other agencies an opportunity to
- 19 discover the extent to which the department has examined
- 20 environmental concerns and available alternatives. Public
- 21 review shall not substitute for open discussion with interested

- 1 persons and agencies, concerning the environmental impacts of
- 2 the action.
- 3 (i) The period for public review and for submitting
- 4 written comments shall commence as of the date notice of
- 5 availability of the draft statement is initially issued in the
- 6 periodic bulletin and shall continue for a period of forty-five
- 7 days. Written comments to the office, with a copy of the
- 8 comments to the department, shall be received or postmarked to
- 9 the office within the forty-five day period. Any comments
- 10 outside of the forty-five day comment period need not be
- 11 considered or responded to.
- 12 (j) The department shall respond in writing to the
- 13 comments received or postmarked during the forty-five day review
- 14 period and incorporate the comments and responses in the final
- 15 statement. The response to comments shall include:
- 16 (1) Point-by-point discussion of the validity,
- 17 significance, and relevance of comments; and
- 18 (2) Discussion as to how each comment was evaluated and
- 19 considered in planning the action.
- 20 The response shall endeavor to resolve conflicts,
- 21 inconsistencies, or concerns. Response letters reproduced in
- 22 the text of the final statement shall indicate verbatim changes

- 1 that have been made to the text of the draft statement. The
- 2 response shall describe the disposition of significant
- 3 environmental issues raised (e.g., revisions to the proposed
- 4 project to mitigate anticipated impacts or objections, etc.).
- 5 In particular, the issues raised when the department's position
- 6 is at variance with recommendations and objections raised in the
- 7 comments shall be addressed in detail, giving reasons why
- 8 specific comments and suggestions were not accepted, and factors
- 9 of overriding importance warranting an override of the
- 10 suggestions.
- (k) Any addendum document to a draft environmental impact
- 12 statement shall reference the original draft environmental
- 13 impact statement it attaches to and comply with all applicable
- 14 filing, public review, and comment requirements set forth in
- 15 this part.
- 16 SECTION 12. (a) The final authority to accept a final
- 17 statement required under this part shall rest with the office,
- 18 or the office's authorized representative. The department may
- 19 request the office to make a preliminary review regarding the
- 20 acceptability or non-acceptability of the environmental impact
- 21 statement. The office, when requested by the department, may

- 1 review and make a recommendation as to the acceptability of the
- 2 final statement.
- 3 (b) The office shall take prompt measures to determine the
- 4 acceptability or non-acceptability of the department's
- 5 statement.
- 6 (c) Acceptability of a statement shall be evaluated on the
- 7 basis of whether the statement, in its completed form,
- 8 represents an informational instrument which fulfills the
- 9 definition of an environmental impact statement and adequately
- 10 discloses and describes all identifiable environmental impacts
- 11 and satisfactorily responds to review comments.
- (d) A statement shall be deemed to be an acceptable
- 13 document by the office only if all of the following criteria are
- 14 satisfied:
- 15 (1) The procedures for consultation process, review, and
- 16 the preparation and submission of the statement, have
- 17 all been completed satisfactorily as specified in this
- 18 part;
- 19 (2) The content requirements described in this part have
- 20 been satisfied; and

1	(3) Comments submitted during the review process have
2	received responses satisfactory to the office, and
3	have been incorporated in the statement.
4	(e) Upon acceptance or non-acceptance of the environmental
5	impact statement, a notice of the determination shall be filed
6	by the office with the department. For any non-accepted

- 7 statement, the notice shall contain specific findings and
- 8 reasons for non-acceptance. The office shall publish notice of
- 9 the determination of acceptance or non-acceptance in the
- 10 periodic bulletin.
- 11 (f) A non-accepted statement shall be revised by the
- 12 department to address the concerns of the office. The revision
- 13 shall take the form of a revised draft environmental impact
- 14 statement document which shall fully address the inadequacies of
- 15 the non-accepted statement and shall completely and thoroughly
- 16 discuss the changes made. The requirements for filing,
- 17 distribution, publication of availability for review, acceptance
- 18 or non-acceptance, and notification and publication of
- 19 acceptability shall be the same as the requirements prescribed
- 20 by this part for an environmental impact statement submitted for
- 21 acceptance. In addition, the revised draft statement shall be
- 22 evaluated for acceptability on the basis of whether it

- 1 satisfactorily addresses the findings and reasons for non-
- 2 acceptance.
- 3 (g) The department may withdraw an environmental impact
- 4 statement by sending a letter to the office informing the office
- 5 of the department's withdrawal. Subsequent resubmittal of the
- 6 statement shall meet all requirements for filing, distribution,
- 7 publication, review, acceptance, and notification as a new
- 8 statement.
- 9 PART IV
- 10 SECTION 13. (a) There is established under the department
- 11 of transportation, a temporary Hawaii inter-island ferry
- 12 oversight task force. The department of transportation shall be
- 13 responsible for administering the work of the temporary Hawaii
- 14 inter-island ferry oversight task force, providing a
- 15 facilitator, and submitting reports to the legislature and
- 16 governor. The goal of the temporary Hawaii inter-island ferry
- 17 oversight task force shall be to study the State's actions
- 18 regarding the establishment of the operations of any large
- 19 capacity ferry vessel company as a whole and to examine the
- 20 impact, if any, of the operations of any existing or proposed
- 21 large capacity ferry vessel company on:

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1	(1)	Ocean life and marine animals and plants, including
2		but not limited to an existing or proposed inter-
3		island ferry operations' whale avoidance policy and
4		procedures;
5	(2)	Water resources and quality;
6	(3)	Harbor infrastructure;
7	(4)	Vehicular traffic;
8	(5)	Public safety and security;
9	(6)	The potential to spread invasive species;
10	(7)	Cultural resources, including hunting, fishing, and
11		native Hawaiian resources;
12	(8)	Economic consequences and impact; and
13	(9)	Any other natural resource or community concern.
14	(b)	The members of the temporary Hawaii inter-island ferry
15	oversight	task force, totaling thirteen members, shall include
16	the follow	wing:
17	(1)	The director of transportation, or the director's
18		designee;
19	(2)	The chairperson of the board of agriculture, or the
20		chair's designee;
21	(3)	The chairperson of the board of land and natural
22		resources, or the chairperson's designee;

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1	(4)	The attorney general, or the attorney general's
2		designee;
3	(5)	The president of a large capacity ferry vessel
4		company, or the president's designee;
5	(6)	One representative from each of the four major
6		counties, including at least one representative from
7		the environmental community, one representative who is
8		active or knowledgeable in native Hawaiian cultural
9		practices, and one representative from the general
10	,	business community; provided that each such
11		representative shall be appointed by the speaker of
12		the house of representatives; and
13	(7)	One representative from each of the four major
14	·	counties, including at least one representative from
15		the environmental community, one representative who is
16		active or knowledgeable in native Hawaiian cultural
17		practices, and one representative from the general
18		business community; provided that each such
19		representative shall be appointed by the president of
20		the senate.
21	(c)	Members of the temporary Hawaii inter-island ferry
22	oversight	task force shall serve without compensation but shall

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- 1 be reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary
- 2 for the performance of their duties. All expenses, including
- 3 travel expenses, shall be paid by the department of
- 4 transportation.
- 5 (d) The temporary Hawaii inter-island ferry oversight task
- 6 force shall submit monthly status reports of its findings and
- 7 recommendations to the legislature and governor at the end of
- 8 each month commencing with December 31, 2007. The temporary
- 9 Hawaii inter-island ferry oversight task force shall include, in
- 10 its monthly status reports, at a minimum:
- 11 (1) A listing and description of the mitigation measures
- 12 established to deter or minimize any adverse
- environmental impact of the large capacity ferry
- vessel company and its operations; and
- 15 (2) A review of the mitigation measures implemented and
- 16 the efficacy of those mitigation measures on deterring
- or minimizing any adverse environmental impact caused
- 18 by the operation of the large capacity ferry vessel
- 19 company and its vessels.
- 20 (e) The temporary Hawaii inter-island ferry oversight task
- 21 force shall submit a final report of its findings and
- 22 recommendations to the legislature and governor no later than

- 1 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
- 2 2009 and shall cease to exist upon the submission of the final
- 3 report.
- 4 SECTION 14. (a) The auditor shall conduct a performance
- 5 audit on the state administration's actions in exempting certain
- 6 harbor improvements to facilitate large capacity ferry vessels
- 7 from the requirements of conducting an environmental assessment
- 8 or environmental impact statement under chapter 343, Hawaii
- 9 Revised Statutes. The audit shall also include the state
- 10 administration's actions in not considering potential secondary
- 11 environmental impacts of the harbor improvements prior to
- 12 granting the exemption from these requirements. The governor
- 13 and any other state officer deemed appropriate by the auditor
- 14 are requested to provide all documents and information deemed
- 15 relevant by the auditor in the conduct of the performance audit
- 16 and otherwise fully cooperate with the auditor's requests made
- 17 pursuant to this section.
- 18 (b) The auditor shall submit the performance audit to the
- 19 legislature no later than March 1, 2008. If the performance
- 20 audit is not completed by March 1, 2008, the auditor shall
- 21 submit a preliminary report by that date and a final report as
- 22 soon as possible thereafter, but no later than April 20, 2008.

- 1 SECTION 15. Any previously made appropriation or
- 2 previously authorized expenditure of funds for any inter-island
- 3 ferry operations of a large capacity ferry vessel company, or
- 4 for improvements or operating expenses to accommodate its
- 5 provision of inter-island ferry service, shall be approved and
- 6 authorized to the extent they are needed to effectuate the
- 7 provisions of this Act.
- 8 Any state lands previously authorized to be used to
- 9 facilitate or support the operation of a large capacity ferry
- 10 yessel, shall be authorized to be used to effectuate the
- 11 provisions of this Act.
- 12 Any state harbor improvement or state or county facilities
- 13 previously made or made available to facilitate or support the
- 14 operation of a large capacity ferry vessel may be used by any
- 15 large capacity ferry vessel company or any other person to
- 16 effectuate the provisions of this Act.
- 17 Any certificate of public convenience and necessity
- 18 previously issued to a large capacity ferry vessel company may
- 19 be used to effectuate the provisions of this Act.
- 20 Any tariffs issued for the purpose of facilitating the
- 21 provision of service by a large capacity ferry vessel may be
- 22 used to effectuate the provisions of this Act.

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          Any agreements between the department of transportation or
 2
     the state and a large capacity ferry vessel company previously
    entered into for the purpose of facilitating the provision of
 3
    service by a large capacity ferry vessel may be used to
 4
    effectuate the provisions of this Act.
 5
         SECTION 16. Every large capacity ferry vessel company that
 6
    has the legal right to operate pursuant to section 3 of this
 7
    Act, during the time period this Act is effective, by exercising
 8
 9
    such right to operate at any time this Act is effective, by such
10
    operation, releases and waives any and all claims that have
    accrued or arisen as of the effective date of this Act for
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    damages or other judicial relief it or any of its agents,
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13
    successors, and assigns might otherwise have or assert against
    the State of Hawaii, its agencies, and its officers and
14
    employees, in both their official and individual capacities,
15
    that have or may have been caused by or are related in any way
16
17
    to:
              The need, requirement, preparation, non-preparation,
18
         (1)
              acceptance, or lack of acceptance of or for any
19
              environmental assessments or environmental impact
20
              statements; or
21
```

1	(2) Any judicial action regarding the establishment and
2	operation of the large capacity ferry vessel in the
3	state,
4	and such large capacity ferry vessel company by such operation
5	accepts the obligation to, and thus shall indemnify and defend
6	the State of Hawaii, its agencies, and its officers and
7	employees, in both their official and individual capacities,
8	from such claims brought by, through, or under the large
9	capacity ferry vessel company, or any of its agents, successors,
10	and assigns.
11	SECTION 17. If any provision of this Act, or the
12	application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
13	invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
14	applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
15	invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
16	of this Act are severable.
17	SECTION 18. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
18	provided that this Act shall be repealed on the earlier of:
19	(1) The forty-fifth day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and
20	holidays, following adjournment sine die of the
21	regular session of 2009; or

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1	(2)	Upon acceptance of the final environmental impact
2		statement as provided in this Act;
3	and	
4	provided	further that:
5	(1)	The final environmental impact statement by the
6	·	department of transportation that is accepted by the
7		office of environmental quality control under this Act
8		shall be and remain effective for all purposes under
9		the laws of this state, notwithstanding the repeal of
10		this Act; and
11	(2)	Section 16 of this Act shall not be repealed when this

Act is repealed.

11

12

1	(2)	Upon acceptance of the final environmental impact
2		statement as provided in this Act;
3	and	

- 4 provided further that:
- 5 (1) The final environmental impact statement by the
  6 department of transportation that is accepted by the
  7 office of environmental quality control under this Act
  8 shall be and remain effective for all purposes under
  9 the laws of this state, notwithstanding the repeal of
  10 this Act; and
  - (2) Section 16 of this Act shall not be repealed when this Act is repealed.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Approved this day: NOV 2 2007

#### THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: October 29, 2007 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Second Special Session of 2007.

President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate

### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: October 31, 2007 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Second Special Session of 2007.

Speaker, House of Representatives

Chief Clerk, House of Representatives